

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments. By the present amendment, claims 1-3 have been canceled. In addition, Applicants have amended claims 4-6 and have added claims 7 and 8 to more specifically recite certain aspects of the invention. Support for these amendments may be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed, and it is urged that these amendments do not constitute new matter. Support for functional fragments of Mch5 is provided throughout the specification, including, *e.g.*, on page 12, lines 10-12. In addition, specific support for functional fragments of Mch5 corresponding to amino acid residues 4-77 and 128-205 of SEQ ID NO:4 is provided, *e.g.*, on page 5, lines 4-8. It should also be noted that the above amendments are made without prejudice to prosecution of any subject matter removed or modified by amendment in a related divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application.

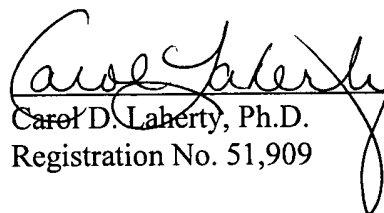
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims remaining in the application are now allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Emad S. Alnemri et al.

SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC


Carol D. Laherty, Ph.D.
Registration No. 51,909

CDL:jto

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6300
Seattle, Washington 98104-7092
Phone: (206) 622-4900
Fax: (206) 682-6031
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